

REMARKS

The rejections of Claims 5, 6, 10, 11 and 14-16 as being unpatentable over Jakobi et al. in view of Carter et al. and of Claims 7-9, 12 and 13 as being unpatentable over Jakobi et al. in view of Carter et al. and Izawa et al., both under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), are traversed. Reconsideration of each of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Although the Office Action correctly observes that the Jakobi et al. glow plug does not teach a surface-hardened coil, it also fails to address the fact that, like the Carter et al. plug assembly, the claimed invention is one which uses a filling of compacted powder in which the coil is embedded. Thus, neither of the cited patents involve a glow plug (or rod) device in which the service life problem arises from compacting the powder filling and thereby stressing the embedded wire. Applicants have discovered that the benefits of compacting can be retained while avoiding its disadvantage by surface hardening the coil. Any suggestion that the Jakobi et al. and Carter et al. teachings would have been combinable could only have been based upon the impermissible hindsight motivation set forth in the Office Action but still would not result in a device with a compacted powder filling.

The use of the Izawa et al. patent is directly attributable to impermissible hindsight involving, as this patent does, a totally non-analogous process for producing clutch disk torsion springs or valve springs to avoid breakage

problems in cold coiling molding. The Izawa et al. patent is clearly irrelevant to the invention set forth in any of the claims of this application.

Accordingly, early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #255/50746).

Respectfully submitted,



James F. McKeown
Registration No. 25,406

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CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JFM:mtm